Delivery changes in 1996 ...

It may have happened by a fluke ... but a true optimist knows that all things do happen for the best. You may have noticed that last month, your “Villager” was delivered to your door in a clear bag of its own. Due to overwhelming demand, this practice will continue -- as awareness was improved, as well as readership and acceptance!

So, beginning with our February, 1996 issue, you can expect your copy of The Villager to be delivered directly to your door in a clear, plastic bag of its own, on the first Thursday of each month. Look for it ... and contribute to future issues! Make it yours!

M.P.C.A. Highlights

The newly purchased permanent signs with temporary inserts were used at the Village entrances to announce the children’s Christmas party. Santa Claus’ appearance added to the children’s excitement and enjoyment at the well-attended party.

The Association contributed $25 towards the Northland Community Council’s collection of $385 for the Mid-Ohio Food Bank. Since there is a continuing need for food, the M.P.C.A. is requesting that the Village residents consider contributing non-perishable food all year long using the Community Building as a collection center.

The new directory will be published and ready for distribution in Fall, 1996. Dues are still being collected. We hope that you will join the Association and join in the meetings. The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on January 10th at the Community Building. Happy New Year to all!

January Dates

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Zoning Meeting, 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Jan. 8</td>
<td>Village Council Mtg., 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Jan. 10</td>
<td>M.P.C.A. Meeting, 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Jan. 12</td>
<td>The Villager Deadline, 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Jan. 1-31</td>
<td>Collection of M.P.C.A. Dues</td>
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Mayor's Corner
By Mayor Jack Murray

Have you learned to write 1996 yet? I usually don't master the new year until about November or December and then have to start all over.

We now have a new fulltime police officer, Gregg Wilson. Gregg will be working the third shift for a while which will give us 24 hour coverage most days.

I would like to call your attention to a situation where all of us can be of help. A recent burglary occurred in a Minerva Park home in the daylight hours while the residents were away for about an hour. People who commit these break-ins are bold, fast and clever. So, if you see a person or persons, or a car that appears to be suspicious, please call the police so they can check it out.

Burglars broke into my home several years ago in the late afternoon. If they had been noticed and the police called, we would have had a much nicer Christmas that year.

We are working on new Village corporation signs since most of the old ones are gone or broken. If you have any ideas about the design or colors, send us a note.

Did you know? The Intermodel Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (how's that for a government project?) established a funding program at 80% federal and 20% local match for activities described under a section known as the Transportation Enhancement Program. Four projects requesting funding in Franklin County are: Downtown Bikeway Connector ($4,043,717), Broad Street Bridge Artwork Project ($700,000), Dublin Road Bikeway ($1,145,440), Columbus I-670 Landscaping ($1,025,202) -- your tax dollars at work! Guess this is why we are having trouble getting money to replace our leaking waterlines.

I heard this at the barber shop: "Money doesn't always bring happiness. A man with Ten Million Dollars is seldom happier than a man with Nine Million"!
Nov. 1  **Theft.** Between 11:00 a.m. on the morning of Oct. 28 and 7:55 a.m. on the morning of Nov. 1, person(s) unknown forced entry into a storage shed in the 3100 block of E. Dublin Granville Rd. and removed a John Deer riding lawn mower.

Nov. 3  **Aggravated Burglary.** Between 11:30 a.m. and 3:40 p.m., a possible known suspect entered a residence in the 2600 block of Wildwood Rd. and removed several items.

Nov. 4  **Suicide Attempt.** At 2:30 p.m., dispatched to a residence in the 2600 block of Wildwood Rd., where a subject took an overdose of prescription medicine.

Nov. 4  **Domestic Violence.** At 1:09 a.m. dispatched to the 2600 block of Wildwood Rd. on a domestic dispute. No injuries.

Nov. 8  **Theft.** Between 1:00 p.m. on Nov. 3 and 4:21 on Nov. 8, known persons removed property from a business in the 2500 block of Woodley Rd., without the consent of the owner.

Nov. 14  **Burglary in Progress (False Alarm).** At 12:44 p.m. dispatched to the 2700 block of Lakewood Dr., on a burglary in progress.

Nov. 14  **Burglary in Progress (False Alarm).** At 4:47 p.m. dispatched to the 3200 block of Minerva Lake Rd., on a burglary in progress.

Nov. 17  **Domestic Violence.** At 7:00 p.m. dispatched to a residence in the 2700 block of Lakewood Rd. on a domestic dispute. The complainant was assaulted. The offender was arrested.

Nov. 17  **Breaking and Entering in Progress (False Alarm).** At 7:08 a.m., dispatched to Gordon Food Service at 5400 Cleveland Ave.

Nov. 22  **Breaking and Entering in Progress (False Alarm).** At 8:36 a.m., dispatched to Household Finance Corporation at 5426 Cleveland Ave.

Nov. 22  **Burglary in Progress (False Alarm).** At 7:15 p.m. dispatched to the 2700 block of Aldervista Dr., on a burglary in progress.

Nov. 24  **Burglary in Progress (False Alarm).** At 6:04 p.m. dispatched to the 2500 block of Maplewood Dr., on a burglary in progress.

Nov. 27  **Breaking and Entering in Progress (False Alarm).** At 12:30 p.m., dispatched to Miller-Raney Plumbing Company at 5474 Cleveland Ave.
... Remember my friend ... a heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved by others.

The Wizard to the Tin Man
The Wizard of Oz

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We are now in the year 1996, and looking forward with anticipation to success for our community goals and satisfaction of individual initiatives. There is tremendous potential within Minerva Park, and it is our obligation as a community association to recognize these talents and abilities, and to tap these resources for the betterment of our neighborhoods. But we do not want to over-use and rely continually on those unselfish talents that have kept Minerva Park in the forefront as an independent and self-contained community.

For this reason, I am asking for your help. We need some person or persons to chair a committee that has had outstanding leadership for several years in maintaining the pre-eminence of "The Minerva Park Garage Sale". Betty Beatrice has co-ordinated her committee members to bring about very successful sales ... but we are not at the point of imposing upon her good nature and talents, and do not want to ask her again to lead this effort.

I know the interest and abilities are in the Village remaining to be tapped. We are letting it be known that the need is there and are confidently awaiting calls and inquiries from interested and motivated individuals. Please contact any officer of M.P.C.A. (Don Champney, President/882-3318; Jim Kehl, Vice President/794-0047; Bea Hulbert, Secretary/882-0265; Marty Grosh, Treasurer/899-1815) to indicate your interest.

Our garage sale is the "Mother of Garage Sales" in the Northland area, and many neighboring communities schedule their own garage sales so as not to conflict with the Minerva Park Sale! We want to justify this respect and continue the high standards of the garage sale market for the continuing years.

Please give need to our pleas -- we want to make the 1996 sale a classic in every way ... including the weather (JYM Ganahl, please note.)
In November, Squad 119 made 200 runs, 31 runs into Blendon Township (exclusive of Minerva Park) and 7 into Minerva Park. 59 patients were transported to local hospitals. members volunteered a total of 1679 hours for the month, raising the year-to-date total to 17,163. The leading volunteers for the month were Fran Meredith (104), Curt Gannon (99), and John Owens (90). John Owens leads for the year-to-date with 1,228 hours.

On Dec. 10th, the Department held its annual Holiday Dinner and Awards Presentation. Tina Quinn, a Village resident, was chosen as Volunteer of the Year and Becky Van Arsdale was selected as the Rookie of the Year.

The Department received a donation of $6,000 from Blendon Township to partially defray the cost of a heart defibrillator and related training that we hope to acquire early in 1996. We also just completed an application for a state EMS grant to help cover the costs of some additional patient care equipment and training.

The children's party in December featured Santa, an elf and lots and lots of visiting children.

Kid's Party a Success! -By Nancy Fry

The Children's Committee Christmas party was lots of fun for all of the children who attended. Santa (aka Tim Becker) was there to listen to all of the Christmas wish lists. Also present was Santa's elf (Rebecca Becker). Everyone had a lovely time caroling with Jenny Johnston who led the singing and played her guitar. Other helpers included Janet Kohn, Carey Kohn, Kim Dooley, Pertain Buckland, Sarah Eisentrout, Nikki Rowe and Darla Feiler. Cookie bakers were Carolyn Self, Liane Buckingham, Pertain Buckland, Kate Fletcher and Janet Kohn. Claudette Shannon made delicious white chocolate suckers for the children. Thank you to all of the above who helped make the party a success!
Winners Announced!

The winners for the 1995 "Festival of Lights" are listed below. Congratulations to all of our Minerva Park Winners!

Best Outline Effect: The Cockrell's at 2641 Woodley
Best Whimsical Display: The Self's at 2620 Lakewood Dr.
Best Religious Theme: The Jule's at 5311 Ponderosa
Best Picture Window: Dr. Lude at 2608 Maplewood Dr.
Best Outdoor Tree: Timothy Flutt at 5274 Cardinal Ct.
Best Entrance Way: The Swatik's at 3253 Minerva Lake Rd.

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My Neighborhood
By Donn Ditzhazy

What's your New Year's Resolution?

Resolution 1. I resolve to find out exactly what a resolution really is.

Hmmm ... defined in Websters Dictionary as "the act of resolving something; formal expression of opinion". Let's see ... I tend not to have formal opinions (They tend to be on the informal side. And that resolving thing -- I've found that if you resolve too many things in your life, you eliminate a lot of uncertainty and stress ... and what fun is that?)

Resolution 2. Don't rush to see a milestone unfold ... sometimes the anticipation is as enjoyable as the actual event.

It's a cruel joke Father Time plays on us each year as we grow older. In our youth we rush to hit another plateau of our life with nothing moving fast enough. For example, when you're 6 years old you can't wait for your first bike ... 16 years old waiting for your drivers license ... 25 getting your first "new car". At about 30 you stop looking for age milestones in yourself and begin looking for them in your children. Can't wait for the crawling, walking, talking ... it's as if by living through our kids we regain a bit of our youth. The positive to this is that by watching their milestones we forget our aging ones.

Resolution 3. I resolve to get a closet writer to contribute to The Villager ... ok, ok I'm stretching ... but, who knows, that could be your resolution, right?

In 1996, we as residents in Minerva Park have an opportunity to get involved in our community as little or as much as possible. We are a tight knit community that thrives on the friendliness of its neighbors. Whether it's an occasional photograph, a column, an advertisement of support in The Villager, or even a simple friendly wave to neighbors in their yard as you drive by ... there's no better satisfaction than that which comes from living in a safe, happy community like ours.
A few people are into mailbox covers. I particularly admired the turkey at 2508 Minerva Lake and in early December, Anderson's (5081 Maplewood) box cover saying "Season's Greetings" and showing a Canadian Goose with a wreath around its neck. On the stand below are nice red bows.

1. **Make a New Year's resolution to do the things in your yard that you didn't do last year.** In my case, it is to spray my roses more often. When black spot gets started, the leaves all fall off, the plants look awful and the bloom is sparse.

2. **Start a "To Do" monthly calendar which covers the things you need to do in your own yard.** For instance, if you have Mugho Pines in your landscaping, watch them in early summer for the worms of the European Sawfly. If you see any browning on the tips, look for the ugly creatures and spray.

3. **Clean up an "Garden Waste" still lying around in flower beds or on the lawn.** Sedum Autumn Joy is supposed to look interesting with snow on it, but the dead bloom stalks on Yuccas add nothing.

4. **Clean up garden tools and sharpen them** (or take them to a hardware store to be done). Also, schedule the lawn mower for service or make your arrangements for 1996 lawn care service.

5. **When it snows, gently tap bows of evergreens from below to keep the snow from getting too heavy and breaking bows.** This is particularly important if the snow is a wet one. Arborvita are the most susceptible to damage.

6. **Now is the time to check your property for Winter interest.** You should be able to see an evergreen shrub or tree from every window of your house or a tree with interesting shape or bark or a bird feeder -- something besides a bunch of dead sticks. Notice how nice the Spruces and Pines look in the front yard with or without snow on them. Before settling on a location for one, measure the width of a full grown one like the beauty at Pilkgington's (3119 Minerva Lake). It is important not to block the view when exiting your drive or to have one growing out into the street or drive.

7. **Finally, resolve to give some time to help you community.** The MinervaFlora committee is always looking for someone to give anywhere from one to one hundred hours ... and while some of the work is strenuous, most is not. The majority of the community association committees have turned out to be committees of one. Let's all work together and change that in 1996!
Peggy and Tom Dlusky

Tom and Peggy Dlusky have been residents of our Park since 1969. They live at 2634 Maplewood Dr., better neighbors you couldn't find. Both were very involved in Village activities in the past. They are best known now for the pigs that roam their front yard. Tom is a chunk in the accounting firm, Pritchett, Dlusky and Saxe, 1621 W. First Ave. In grandview, Peggy maintains one of the most beautiful back yards in our Village.

Dick Paugh sees many exotic creatures outside his home in the wetlands. Recently two ostriches lit on the lake. When they flew away, Dick found an egg the size of a football. He invited all his friends in for an omelette dinner. It's a good thing nobody showed, because it really was a football.

Larry has two fingers missing from his left hand. Ernie gives this version of how it happened. He says Larry can't pass a payphone without sticking his fingers in the coin return slot. One day he shoved his hand in too far and the phone company employers cut off his fingers rather than risk damage to an expensive piece of equipment.

The article below was sent me by an anonymous who unquestionably is not one of our Procrastinator Anonymous members. It is contrary to almost everything we sleep for. Rated 'R', not to be read by anyone over age 12.

To Achieve Your Dreams, Remember Your ABCs
- Avoid negative sources, people, places, things and habits.
- Believe in yourself.
- Consider things from every angle.
- Don't give up and don't give in.
- Enjoy life today; yesterday is gone, and tomorrow may never come.
- Family and friends are hidden treasures.
- Seek them and enjoy their riches.
- Give more than you planned to give.
- Hang on to your dreams.
- Ignore those who try to discourage you.
- Just do it!
- Keep on trying. No matter how hard it seems, it will get easier.
- Love yourself first and most.
- Make it happen.
- Never lie, cheat or steal. Always strike a fair deal.
- Open your eyes and see things as they really are.
- Practice makes perfect.
- Quitters never win, and winners never quit.
- Read, study and learn about everything important in your life.
- Stop procrastinating.
- Take control of your own destiny.
- Understand yourself in order to better understand others.
- Visualize it.
- Want it more than anything.
- Accelerate your efforts.
- You are unique of all of God's creations.

Nothing can replace you.
- Zero in on your target and go for it!